

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 06463 290058Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00
INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01
OMB-01 L-03 ITC-01 /041 W
-----290105Z 039698 /73

P 290016Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9099

UNCLAS MANILA 6463

PASS: USDOC WASHDC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, RP

SUBJ: TEXTILES: U.S.-PHILIPPINES TEXTILE AGREEMENT - CATEGORY 49

REF: A. MANILA A-89 OF APRIL 5, 1977, B. STATE 80309

1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN RECEIVING REPORTS FROM PHILIPPINE EXPORTERS THAT CATEGORY 49 HAS BEEN EMBARGOED. IN ABSENCE OF ANY RECENT INFORMATION ON STATUS OF THIS CATEGORY FROM WASHINGTON, EMBASSY OFFICER HAS REPLIED THAT EMBARGO IS CERTAINLY A POSSIBILITY SINCE SHIPMENTS WERE APPROACHING LIMITATION LEVELS IN LATE MARCH AS EVIDENCED BY MARCH 3 FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE TO APPLY CARRY-OVER TO THIS CATEGORY.

2. TEXTILE EXPORT BOARD (TEB) IS CONCERNED THAT ACCORDING TO GOP STATISTICS (REPORTED IN REFERENCED AIRGRAM), ONLY 28,762 DOZENS (OR 67.2 PERCENT OF LIMITATION LEVEL) HAVE BEEN SHIPPED AS OF MARCH 31, 1977 WHILE U.S. STATISTICS (REF. B) INDICATE THAT 44,530 DOZENS WERE IMPORTED THROUGH APRIL 1. SANCHEZ OF TEB SPECULATED THAT DIFFERENCE IN TRADE STATISTICS MAY RESULT FROM FACT THAT GOP USED DATE-OF-SHIPMENT AS BASIS FOR FIGURES WHILE USG USES DATE-OF-ENTRY. AS A RESULT, SEVERAL SHIPMENTS FROM LAST AGREEMENT YEAR MAY
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MANILA 06463 290058Z

HAVE BEEN COUNTED AGAINST THIS YEAR'S LEVELS. EMBASSY OFFICER EXPLAINED THAT UNDER TERMS OF AGREEMENT, DATE-OF-SHIPMENT GOVERNS AND THAT USG COLLECTS AND UTILIZES BOTH DATE-OF-SHIPMENT AND DATE-OF-ENTRY STATISTICS.

3. TEB INQUIRED THAT COULD BE DONE TO PREVENT EMBARGO OF CATEGORY 49 (ASSUMING THAT THIS HAS NOT ALREADY OCCURED).

EMBASSY OFFICER REPLIED AS FOLLOWS:

A) "FLEXIBILITY" SHOULD BE REQUESTED FOR THIS CATEGORY. TEB HAS, IN FACT, ALREADY MADE SUCH A REQUEST FOR CATEGORY 49 (AND OTHER CATEGORIES AS WELL) WHICH HAS BEEN FORWRDED TO WASHINGTON BY PRIORITY CABLE.

B) TEB SHOULD LIST ALL SHIPMENTS TO U.S. IN CATEGORY 49 FOR THIS AGREEMENT YEAR, AND FORWARD IT TO PHILIPPINE EMBASSY, WASHINGTON. PHILIPPINE EMBASSY PERSONNEL WILL THEN BE ABLE TO CONSULT INFORMALLY WITH OFFICE OF TEXTILES, COMMERCE, TO DETERMINE WHERE STATISTICAL DIFFERENCES LIE.

4. U.S. IMPORTER OF CATEGORY 49 ALSO CALLED ON EMBASSY OFFICER ON APRIL 27. IMPORTER'S NAME AND ADDRESS ARE AS FOLLOWS: MR. BEN KURTZMAN, SPORT CLOTHES, LTD. INC., 1212 S. STANFORD AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90021. KURTZMAN CLAIMS THAT CORDUROY SUITS WHICH HE IMPORTS IN CATEGORY 49 ARE NOT REPEAT NOT PRODUCED IN U.S. AND WILL BE CONTACTING OFFICE OF TEXTILES TO MAKE THIS ARGUMENT AND TO LEND HIS SUPPORT TO PHILIPPINE EMBASSY'S EFFORTS TO RESOLVE STATISTICAL DISCREPANCIES. EMBASSY OFFICER DID NOT ENCOURAGE KURTZMAN'S PROJECTS OTHER THAN TO SAY THAT HE WOULD RECEIVE A "FAIR HEARING."

5. KURTZMAN EMPHASIZED THAT HE NEEDS THE SUITS FOR THE OPENING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR AND ASKED IF HE COULD BORROW YARDAGE FROM NEXT YEAR'S LEVEL IF NECESSARY. EMBASSY OFFICER EXPLAINED THAT CARRY-FORWARD WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 MANILA 06463 290058Z

BE AVAILABLE (IN LINE WITH DISCUSSION CONTAINED PARA 3, REF. B), AND NOTED THAT ANY BORROWING FROM NEXT YEAR'S LEVELS WOULD REQUIRE A REQUEST FROM GOP FOR CONSIDERATION OUTSIDE TERMS OF AGREEMENT AND THAT THERE WAS NO CERTAINTY THAT THE REQUEST COULD BE GRANTED BY U.S. COMMITTEE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS (CITA) IN VIEW OF SENSITIVITY OF SUIT CATEGORIES. STULL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXTILES, AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: TEXTILES: U.S.-PHILIPPINES TEXTILE AGREEMENT - CATEGORY 49
TAGS: ETRD, RP, US
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